



DECLARATION COMBINED WITH POWER OF ATTORNEY

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Attorney Docket No. 8638

As a below named in inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled Improved Topsheet for Contacting Hydrous Body Tissues and Absorbent Device with Such a Topsheet the specification of which

(check
one) is attached hereto.
was filed on July 13, 2001 as United States Application No. or
PCT International Application Serial No. _____
and was amended on _____

(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)			Priority Claimed	
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			Yes	No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Application Serial No.	Filing Date
1. 10/22/2000	09/11/2000	2. 10/22/2000	09/11/2000

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of any United States application(s), or §365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37 C.F.R. §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

U.S. Parent Application Number	PCT Parent Number	Parent Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Parent Patent Number (If applicable)
09/637,440		08/11/2000	

As named inventor, I hereby appoint the registered practitioners associated with customer number 27752 to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO: Customer Number 27752

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first joint inventor Christopher Philip Bewick-Sonntag

Inventor's signature Christopher Philip Bewick-Sonntag

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Inventor's signature Thomas Ward Osborn, III

Date 7-23-01

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(Revised 3/14/01)